can say that my Master in Public Administration degree from Pace University has contributed enormously to my recent success on the job,” declares William Rehm, who was appointed first deputy commissioner of Westchester County Police this past April.

Bill Rehm, a 1989 graduate of the program, credits the knowledge he gained in the Master in Public Administration (MPA) program with providing the foundation necessary to his success. “I was a police officer for the past 19 years and always had a desire to further my education with the goal of opening up new career possibilities. I gained an excellent understanding of how government works from the MPA program, and that knowledge is essential to my new administrative role,” Bill says.

Networking, Networking, Networking

“One of the major benefits of the program is the connection to government officials that the professors in the program provide. It was an outstanding networking opportunity,” maintains Bill. As Associate Professor of Political Science Brian Nickerson remarks, “Very often, our graduate students wish to develop a network of contacts that lead to jobs, so student-professor interaction, which is crucial to that process, is encouraged. From that, we’ve seen many positive results where students have landed jobs in their desired field or advanced themselves in existing careers.”

In his current position, Bill manages the day-to-day operations of various bureaus, including the special operation division that consists of the bomb squad, the special response team, hostage negotiating team, sniper team, and the police academy. “In response to 9/11, we are working with State and Federal officials on a new initiative that would establish a conduit of intelligence information to improve the conveyance of information amongst the local, state and federal levels,” he advises. Bill also serves as the public information officer for the county police.

Bill established “Our Citizen’s Police Academy,” where “specially trained police officer instructors give lectures to the public, covering topics such as criminal law and how police officers are trained,” he explains. “The Citizen’s Police Academy was Billy’s brain-child, and it is such an impressive program that I would like to see it expanded,” said Westchester County Executive Andy Spano. “Billy has been an invaluable asset to the department of public safety. His creativity and his enthusiasm are just two of the reasons why he was recently promoted to deputy commissioner. He has done an admirable job of representing his department and this administration.”

Geared to the Working Professional

“One of the best features of the MPA program is how adaptable it is for working professionals,” Bill recalls. In response to the increasing demands of those who have full-time careers, hybrid courses increase that flexibility even more. These courses have an online component, which provides a convenient and time-efficient mode of learning.

For those students who crave an exciting out-of-classroom experience, a new travel course has

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This year’s Dyson Achievement Awards Benefit Reception was a tremendous success. More than 200 guests poured into the Sky Club, enhanced by a glowing sunset that imbued the rooms in amber light.

Special guest honoree Tony Kushner captivated the audience with an impassioned and thought-provoking speech. Alumni honorees Michèle Classe and Tom Silvestri regaled the group with fond and funny recollections of their undergraduate days on campus. Faculty honorees Florence Denmark and Marty Kotler each did justice to their remarkable careers and characters with their humble and heartfelt acceptance remarks.

Meet Communications Professor Michelle Pulaski

“My rewards are my students’ rewards. When they succeed, I know I’ve done my job.”

— Michelle Pulaski

“I feel like I found my niche,” states Michelle Pulaski, assistant professor of Communications at the Pleasantville campus. Michelle joined the English and Communications department in the fall of 2000, just as the new communications major was inaugurated. “It was very attractive to me to be a part of building the new communications major. It was a good time to come in to the department - there was a lot of enthusiasm for a new faculty member.”

“As a junior faculty member, I had many opportunities to contribute to the new major,” Michelle explains. She created an online course, “Professional Communications,” for the Professional Communication B.A. in Professional Studies, which is a new accelerated online degree program for adults who have an associate’s degree or the equivalent. She also developed “Mass Media, the Internet and Society,” and “Broadcast Audience Analysis” courses for the new major.

“Michelle has been a wonderful addition to our faculty. Her expertise in communications is an enormous asset to our students and our programs,” says Robert Klaeger, chair of the department.

Interested in expanding co-curricular activities as well, Michelle was instrumental in establishing a chapter of “Lambda Pi Eta,” the Communications Honor Society, on campus. Student members recently organized a field trip to the Museum of Television & Radio in Manhattan.

“My rewards are my students’ rewards. When they succeed, I know I’ve done my job,” she adds. “I get such tremendous satisfaction from seeing students get internships or land that first job.”

Michelle holds an M.A. and a Ph.D. in Communication Sciences from the University of Connecticut.

A competitive swimmer, Michelle competes on the White Plains Masters swim team at the Y.W.C.A. She enjoys many outdoor sports, seeing movies and Broadway shows, and reading. In her spare time, Michelle volunteers with Big Brothers Big Sisters of America, Habitat for Humanity, and the Special Olympics.
DYSON SCHOLASTIC ACHIEVEMENT WINNER
Rosalie Gelso Joins Dyson Dean’s Staff

Some people thought she was crazy, giving up a successful career to go back to school and complete her bachelor’s degree.

But this year’s Dyson College Scholastic Achievement Award winner is anything but that. Rosalie Gelso, an adult student who returned to school to make a major life and career change, left behind the retail industry to pursue a career in the counseling field. She currently works as an academic advisor for Dyson College.

Rosalie was regional director for the East Coast for Wilson’s Leather and was responsible for 165 stores. The pace was hectic, and traveling consumed much of her time. “After about two years of planning, and with the advice of a career counselor, I decided to get my bachelor’s degree and pursue a career track in human resources or training and development.”

With some savvy financial planning, Rosalie was able to quit her job and attend Pace as a full-time student.

Originally enrolled as a business major, Rosalie was fascinated with her psychology classes and became interested in pursuing a different course of study. With some insightful academic advising from Beth Gordon Klingner in the Dyson advising office, she changed her major to applied psychology and human relations—and she hasn’t looked back since.

Rosalie landed her job in the Dyson Office of Advising in January of this year, after fulfilling her undergraduate practicum there. “The practicum proved to me that this was what I wanted to do. I was fortunate to be chosen to fill a slot at Dyson and obtain a permanent position here,” she reveals. “She’s been an incredible asset to the advising office and a pleasure to work with,” says Mary Jo Prezioso, director of advising for Dyson College.

“I absolutely love what I do,” beams Rosalie. “I really enjoy working one-to-one with the students and having the opportunity to guide them when they’re making important decisions that affect their lives and careers.” Rosalie is currently pursuing her Master of Science in Education in counseling at Fordham University.

We extend our sincere congratulations to Rosalie on her Scholastic Achievement Award.

DEAN’S MESSAGE

What have we learned in this year? After all, we are an educational institution; learning is what we do best. If it can be said that these turbulent times have yielded any positive consequences, they are surely to be found in the lessons we have learned.

Living in a city like New York can be isolating, but on 9/11, and in the days afterwards, strangers showed remarkable kindness and caring toward one another. Of course, as things return to normal, so do behaviors, but the knowledge remains that we can depend on others when the need is there. We have learned that, while we are more vulnerable than we could have ever imagined, we are also more resilient. We have learned not only to take care of ourselves, but also to be more tolerant, understanding and supportive of those who make up our communities, within New York and beyond.

At Pace, the number of students volunteering through our Center for Community Outreach tripled in the past year to more than one thousand on both campuses.

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I think we can all now focus on the future, bolstered by these hard-learned lessons and a renewed commitment to community involvement and support.

- Gail Dinter-Gottlieb

MPA GRADUATE William Rehm
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been introduced. For the first time this June, students will travel to Albany, New York, and Washington, D.C., to experience government in action and meet with elected officials, visit administrative agencies such as the State Department and the Department of Education, and receive guided tours of Congress and other important sites.

With three tracks of concentration from which to choose: government, health care, and nonprofit management; and internships, seminars, conferences, and student-centered professors who bring real-world experience into the classroom, the program is ideal for those who have the special calling to work in public service and wish to enhance their career potential.

On a scale of 1 to 10, “I would rate the program a 10, and I highly recommend it,” raves Bill.

For more information about the program, visit www.pace.edu/dyson/mpa or contact Susan Daria, program coordinator, at (914) 422-4298.

Fourteen Pace students, shepherded by professors Joseph Ryan and Peggy Fitzgerald from the Criminal Justice Department, explored the criminal justice system in Ireland this June. Students attended lectures by professionals from the police, probation, and prison systems of Ireland and toured those facilities. Two officers of the Irish Garda (Guardians of the Peace), who hosted the group, flank the back row. Here, students visited the Police Officer’s Memorial in Dublin’s Phoenix Park.

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Mitchell Wolfe: An Alumnus Mentor Who Makes a Difference

“It’s a great way to stay connected to Pace, and a wonderful opportunity to give back to the school,” says Mitchell J. Wolfe about the alumni-mentoring program.

For more than 10 years, Mitchell, an associate general counsel at Deloitte & Touche, has been happily dispensing advice to Pace undergraduates and alumni. He started mentoring when he was at New York Law School, where he finished first in his section.

“I really enjoy talking with those students who are undecided about a course of study and helping them choose a major that best suits their interests,” Mitchell reports. “It’s very gratifying to be able to make a contribution to a student’s life at a critical juncture in their collegiate studies.”

Mitchell started his career as an analyst at Goldman Sachs after graduating from Pace in 1985 with a B.A. in Social Science. After law school he worked at the law firm of Sullivan & Cromwell as an attorney. He joined Deloitte & Touche in 1996, and is now a partner of the firm. Because he has worked in both the business and legal fields, he feels he can offer an inside view to those students who are making career choices in those areas.

“It’s been a great experience. I know how valuable it can be for a student to speak with someone who has experience and can shed some light on the realities of the workplace,” Mitchell adds. He also fields calls from alumni who are considering career moves and has referred them to his contacts.

From reviewing resumes, giving interviewing and job negotiation tips, to advising on career strategies and graduate studies, Mitchell gives valuable advice to students and provides an important service to the Pace community.

Mitchell is married, with two children and resides in Westchester County. He enjoys music and collecting entertainment and sports memorabilia.

If you are an alumna/us interested in becoming a mentor, please call the office of career services in New York City at (212) 346-1610, or in Pleasantville at (914) 773-3361.